

1. A surgical trimming tool, comprising:  
first and second handles pivotally attached to one another  
intermediate first and second ends thereof;

a first cutting jaw extending from the first end of the first handle;

a second cutting jaw extending from the first end of the second  
handle, wherein the first and second cutting jaws are configured to cut an  
object when closed towards one another; and

a clip having a first end fixed to either the first or second cutting  
jaw and a second end extending over the jaw and having a sharpened edge  
to retain the cut object between the clip and the closed jaws until the first and  
second jaws are separated or the cut object is forcibly removed from the clip.

7. A surgical trimming tool, comprising:

first and second handles pivotally attached to one another  
intermediate first and second ends thereof;

a first cutting jaw extending from the first end of the first handle;

a second cutting jaw extending from the first end of the second  
handle, wherein the first and second cutting jaws are configured to contact  
and cooperatively define a cutting edge so as to cut an object when closed  
towards one another;

a spring interposed between the first and second handles for  
biasing the first and second jaws into an open position; and

a generally S-shaped clip having a first end thereof fixed to either  
the first or second cutting jaw, with a second end extending over a cutting

Q2 edge of the associated first or second jaw, wherein the clip is resiliently flexible and configured to flex upward as an object is cut so as to retain the object between the second end of the clip and the associated first or second jaw [the clip being configured to retain the cut object between the clip and the closed jaws] until the first and second jaws are separated or the cut object is forcibly removed from the clip.

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Q1 Please add claims 13-17 as follows:

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13. A cranial-flap fixation system, comprising:

a cranial-flap clamp comprising a first closure member having a stem extending therefrom and a second closure member slidably attached to the stem so as to be moved towards the first closure member to lock a cranial flap to a skull;

Q3 a tensioning tool for tensioning the first and second closure member relative to one another; and

a stem trimming tool configured to remove excess stem extending from the second tensioned closure member, the trimming tool comprising:

a first cutting jaw extending from the first end of the first handle;

a second cutting jaw extending from the first end of the second handle, wherein the first and second cutting jaws are configured to cut an object when closed towards one another; and

a clip having a first end fixed to either the first or second cutting jaw and a second end extending over the jaw and configured to retain the cut

object between the clip and the closed jaws until the first and second jaws are separated or the cut object is forcibly removed from the clip.

~~10~~ ~~9~~  
~~14~~. The system of claim ~~13~~, including a spring interposed between the first and second handles of the trimming tool for biasing the first and second jaws into an open position.

~~11~~ ~~10~~  
~~15~~. The system of claim ~~14~~, wherein the spring comprises first and second leaf springs, a first end of the first leaf spring being attached to the second end of the first handle, a first end of the second leaf spring being attached to the second end of the second handle, wherein the second ends of the first and second leaf springs are connected to each other.

~~12~~ ~~9~~  
~~16~~. The system of claim ~~15~~, wherein the clip is resiliently flexible and configured to flex upward as an object is cut so as to retain the object between the second end of the clip and the associated first or second jaw.

~~13~~ ~~9~~  
~~17~~. The system of claim ~~16~~, wherein the second end of the clip includes a sharp edge generally positioned over the cutting edge of the associated first or second jaw and adapted to partially cut into a portion of the stem to securely hold the removed stem within the jaws.

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